

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A magnesium based alloy containing

- a) at least 86 wt% Mg,
- b) 4.8 to 9.2 wt% aluminum,
- c) 0.08 to 0.38 wt% manganese,
- d) 0.00 to 0.9 wt% zinc,
- e) 0.2 to 1.2 wt% calcium,
- f) ~~0.05~~ 0.2 to 1.4 wt% strontium, and
- g) 0.00 to 0.8 wt% rare earth ~~elements~~ elements,
- h) 0.00 to 0.02 wt% zirconium,
- i) 0.0000 to 0.0005wt% beryllium and

wherein the total amount of calcium and strontium \geq 0.9 wt%.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 1, further comprising incidental impurities.

5. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 1, comprising up to 0.004 wt% iron, up to 0.001 wt% nickel, up to 0.003 wt% copper, or up to 0.03 wt% silicon.

6. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 1, wherein the total amount of calcium and strontium is higher than 0.9 wt% and lower than 1.6 wt%.

7. (Currently Amended) An alloy according to claim 1, which contains 7.8 to 8.8 wt% aluminum, 0.00 to 0.3 wt% zinc, 0.65 to 1.05 wt% calcium, ~~0.45~~ 0.25 to 0.65 wt% strontium, 0.00 to 0.2 wt% rare earth elements, and 0.08 to 0.28 wt% manganese.

8. (Original) An alloy according to claim 7, comprising in their structure an Mg-Al solid solution as a matrix, and intermetallic compounds $Mg_{17}Al_9Ca_2Sr$, $Al_2Ca_{0.5}Sr_{0.5}$, and $Al_8(Mn,RE)_5$, said intermetallic compounds being located at grain boundaries of the Mg-Al solid solution.

9. (Original) An alloy according to claim 1, which contains 4.8 to 6.0 wt% aluminum, 0.10 to 0.37 wt% manganese, 0.00 to 0.3 wt% zinc, 0.20 to 0.30 wt% calcium, 0.7 to 1.4 wt% strontium, and 0.1 to 0.6 wt% rare earth elements.

10. (Original) An alloy according to claim 9, comprising in their structure an Mg-Al solid solution as a matrix, and intermetallic compounds $Al_2(Sr,Ca)$, $Al_2(Sr,Ca,RE)_1$ and $Al_x(Mn,RE)_y$, said intermetallic compounds being located at grain boundaries of the Mg-Al solid solution.

11. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 1, wherein rare earth elements comprise a mischmetal.

12. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 1, which is beryllium free.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) An article which is a casting of a magnesium alloy of claim 1.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~An article of claim 14, wherein the casting is chosen from the group consisting of high pressure die casting, sand casting, permanent mold casting, squeeze casting, semi-solid casting, thixocasting and thixomolding.~~ An alloy according to claim 1 having the minimum creep rate (MCR) at 150°C/50 MPa not higher than $3.2 \times 10^{-9} \text{ s}^{-1}$ in combination with tensile yield strength (TYS) not lower than 145 MPa at ambient temperature.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 2, further comprising incidental impurities.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 4, comprising up to 0.004 wt% iron, up to 0.001 wt% nickel, up to 0.003 wt% copper, or up to 0.03 wt% silicon.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 4, wherein the total amount of calcium and strontium is higher than 0.9 wt% and lower than 1.6 wt%.

25. (Previously Presented) An alloy according to claim 5, wherein the total amount of calcium and strontium is higher than 0.9 wt% and lower than 1.6 wt%.